

Federal Railroad Administration
Office of Safety - Headquarters
Accident/Incident Investigation Assignments
January - February, 2005

1. January 5, 2005-CSX Transportation (CSX), Glenco, Kentucky

A mixed freight train collided with debris on the tracks that occurred as the result of a partial collapse of a tunnel wall. As a result of the collision, both locomotives and the head eight cars derailed. Minor injuries to both crew members.

2. January 6, 2005- Norfolk Southern (NS), Graniteville, South Carolina

A mixed freight train, operating at 45 mph, traversed a mis-aligned hand operated switch located in non-signal territory, and collided with standing equipment left on an industrial lead. As a result of the collision, a number of cars derailed including a chlorine car which ruptured. The resultant discharge killed a number of citizens, one railroad employee and forced a 1 mile evacuation of the area.

3. January 8, 2005- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Bieber, California

A mixed freight train, operating at 39 mph, traversed a mis-aligned hand operated switch located in non-signal territory, and collided with standing equipment left in a storage yard. As a result of the collision, 7 locomotives and 14 cars derailed and both crew members were hurt.

4. January 8, 2005-Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Temple, Texas

An eastward freight train, operating at an estimated 8 mph, struck the rear of a standing eastward freight train.

5. January 8, 2005-Union Pacific (UP), Bayport, Texas

A southward freight train was performing switching operations when one locomotive and three Hydrogen-Peroxide cars derailed. As a result of the derailment, two of the three cars caught fire, and a precautionary evacuation was ordered.

6. January 11, 2005- CSX Transportation (CSX), Banks, Alabama

A mixed freight train, operating at 4 mph at the point of collision, traversed a mis-aligned hand operated switch located in non-signal territory, and collided with a standing train which had been tied down on the siding.

7. January 15, 2005- Union Pacific (UP), Waller, Texas

A mixed freight train, operating at 40 mph, derailed 25 cars.

8. January 26, 2005-Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCRX) Glendale, California

A westward Metrolink commuter train struck a highway vehicle that had been abandoned on the tracks. As a result of the collision, the train derailed, hit another passing MetroLink train and knocked over a UP locomotive. 11 people died including the conductor of the passing train. Many passengers were injured including the conductor and engineer of the striking train.

9. January 31, 2005- Norfolk Southern (NS), Tarentum, Pennsylvania

An eastward mixed freight train, operating at 29 mph, derailed 14 cars, which included four hazardous materials cars. As a result of the derailment, a car of flouride hydrogen anhydrous landed in the river and leaked product. A precautionary evacuation of the area was called and lasted more than 24 hours.

10. February 1, 2005- CSX Transportation (CSX), Bellefontaine, Ohio

An eastward mixed freight train operating at an unknown speed-required to be operating at "restricted speed with a cap of 20 mph- struck the rear of a standing eastward freight train.

11. February 3, 2005- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Wellsville, Kansas

A westward intermodal freight train operating at an unknown speed, struck the rear of a standing westward intermodal train. As a result of the collision, derailed cars fouled the adjacent track and a passing eastward train was able to stop before hitting the pile.

12. February 11, 2005- CSX Transportation (CSX), Fonda, New York

A westward freight train, operating at an unknown speed, struck a vehicle at Broadway crossing killing the driver. The actions of a second crew, that had tied down within the crossing circuitry, and had "cut-out" the gates for their train are the focus of the investigation.

13. February 13, 2005- Amtrak(ATK)/Canadian National(CN), Roseland, Louisiana

A northward ATK train operating at an unknown speed, struck a vehicle that had turned directly in front of the leading locomotive. All four passengers in the vehicle were killed.

14. February 14, 2005- Amtrak(ATK)/Union Pacific(UP), Oxnard, California

A northward ATK train, operating at an estimated speed of 79 mph, struck a tractor trailer truck at 5th street and Rose.

15. February 13, 2005- Montana Rail Link (MRL), Trident, Montana

A westward freight train operating at 18 mph, struck the rear of a standing westward train.

16. February 19, 2005-Union Pacific (UP), Fulton, Arkansas

An eastward mixed freight train, operating at an unknown speed, struck an ambulance killing the driver and both attendants. The patient survived.

17. February 21, 2005- Union Pacific (UP), Salem, Illinois

A southward mixed freight train, operating at 5 mph, derailed 21 cars as the train began to pull from a siding and onto the main track.